

REMARKS

Independent claim 1 and 21 have been amended to incorporate the recitations of claim 23, which the Examiner has indicated as containing allowable subject matter, and the other claims have been amended accordingly. Also, formula (I) has been replaced by formula (II) based on the disclosure beginning at the top of page 10 in the specification, with the definition of the variables of formula (II) being somewhat further limited. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-10, 18, 19, 22 and 23 have been canceled. Claim 25 has been amended so that it includes a salt, ether, ester or amide of the recited compound based on the disclosure at, e.g., page 14, lines 11-13 in the specification. Claim 26 has been added directed to the compound recited in claim 25 as presented in the last Amendment.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Objection to Claims 11, 23 and 24

On page 2 of the Office Action, in paragraph 5, the Examiner has objected to claims 11, 23 and 24 because they depend on a rejected base claim, but has indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 11, 23 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the Examiner's indication, Applicant has amended claim 1 to

incorporate the recitations of claim 23, such that claim 1 is in essence claim 23 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (there are no intervening claims) and thus is believed to be allowable. Further, Applicant notes that claims 11 and 24 depend on amended claim 1, which is believed to be allowable as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the objection to claims 11, 23 and 24 has been overcome, and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

On page 3 of the Office Action, in paragraph 7, claims 3, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In response, Applicant noted that the rejected claims have been canceled, so this rejection has been obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph - Written Description

On page 3 of the Office Action, in paragraph 8, claims 3, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

In response, Applicant noted that the rejected claims have been canceled, so this rejection has been obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph - Enablement

On page 5 of the Office Action, in paragraph 9, claims 1, 3-10, 12, 13, 18, 19, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the Specification, while being enabling for reducing the weight of obese patients by the administration of prostaglandin E1 (PGE1) compounds as defined by Claims 11 and 23-25, does not reasonably provide enablement for reducing the weight of obese patients by the administration of multitude of prostaglandin compounds of formula (I) as defined by the rejected claims.

In response, Applicants note that the subject matter recited in claim 23 has been introduced into independent claims 1 and 21 and claim 18 has been cancelled. Since claim 23 was not included in this rejection, Applicant submits that the amended claims meet the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

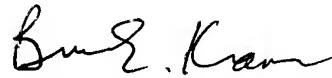
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/531,874

Attorney Docket No.: Q87423

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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